PRESS RELEASE



05-277a

Today's Date: Wednesday, September 28, 2005

District: District 8 San Bernardino

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TREE REMOVAL DELAYED ON STATE ROUTE 18

San Bernardino County – Caltrans has shifted the tree removal effort on State Route 18 (from Sky Forest to Running Springs) to State Route 330 to coincide with the paving project closures. This will provide motorists full access to SR-18 until the completion of the paving project on SR-330. Tree removal will then resume on SR-18. A multiagency effort between Caltrans, Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRCS), California Department of Forestry (CDF), and the United States Forest Service to remove dead and dying bark-beetle infested trees began on Tuesday September 27, 2005.

Paving and tree removal will continue on SR-330 with full closures from 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday and from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Fridays. The paving project will be complete by late October 2005, weather permitting. Tree removal on SR-330 will be complete before the paving project is finished.

Updates will be given as the tree removal progresses to other locations on state routes. The \$1.6 million project is funded through NRCS and is expected to remove about 560 trees on SR-330 and 13,000 trees on SR-18 from now until early-summer 2006. The Oregon-based contractor is South Bay Timber.

For more information on mountain roadwork, please go to our website at www.dot.ca.gov/dist8 and go to "Press Releases". You may also call our Public Affairs office at (909) 383-4631.

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